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App. No. 10/575,214
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IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein the ~~degradation~~ step of adding the protease, the step of causing the redox reaction, and the step of measuring the redox reaction are performed at the same time.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein the step of causing the redox reaction is a step of causing the FAOD to act on the degradation product of the glycated ~~amine~~ protein to generate hydrogen peroxide.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the step of measuring the redox reaction comprises a step of adding an oxidase and a substrate that develops color by oxidation to the sample so that a reaction between the generated hydrogen peroxide and the substrate is caused by the oxidase.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the ~~degradation~~ step of adding the protease, the step of causing the redox reaction, and the step of measuring the redox reaction are performed at the same time by adding the protease, the oxidase, and the substrate that develops color by oxidation to the sample at the same time after ~~the step of causing the FAOD to act on the non-analyte glycated amine~~ pretreating the sample.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the ~~degradation~~ step of adding the protease, the step of causing the redox reaction, and the step of measuring the redox reaction are performed at the same time after ~~the step of causing the FAOD to act on the non-analyte glycated amine~~ pretreating the sample by adding the oxidase to the sample

together with the FAOD prior to the ~~degradation~~ step of adding the protease and further adding the protease and the substrate that develops color by oxidation to the sample at the same time.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the ~~degradation~~ step of adding the protease, the step of causing the redox reaction, and the step of measuring the redox reaction are performed at the same time after ~~the step of causing the FAOD to act on the non-analyte glycated amine~~ pretreating the sample by adding the substrate that develops color by oxidation to the sample together with the FAOD prior to the ~~degradation~~ step of adding the protease and further adding the protease and the oxidase to the sample at the same time.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the oxidase is peroxidase.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein the FAOD is an enzyme specific for a glycated α-amino group of an amino acid residue, an enzyme specific for a glycated side chain of an amino acid residue, or an enzyme specific for both a glycated α-amino group of an amino acid residue and a glycated side chain of an amino acid residue.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein the non-analyte glycated amine is a glycated amino acid.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein the glycated amine as the analyte is a glycated peptide or a glycated protein.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein the glycated amine as the analyte is a glycated amine present in a blood cell.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein the glycated amine as the analyte is glycated hemoglobin.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein a tetrazolium compound further is added to the sample prior to the ~~degradation~~ step of adding the protease.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein the tetrazolium compound comprises 2-(4-iodophenyl)-3-(2,4-dinitrophenyl)-5-(2,4-disulfophenyl)-2H-tetrazolium or a salt thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 22, wherein a surfactant further is added to the sample prior to the ~~degradation~~ step of adding the protease.

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein the surfactant is at least one surfactant selected from nonionic surfactants, anionic surfactants, and cationic surfactants.

18. (Withdrawn and currently amended) A reagent kit to be used in the method according to claim [[1]] 22, the reagent kit comprising a first reagent and a second reagent,

wherein the first reagent contains at least a fructosyl amino acid oxidase (FAOD),

the second reagent contains at least a protease, and

one of a peroxidase and a substrate that develops color by oxidation is contained in the first reagent whereas the other is contained in the second reagent, or both the peroxidase and the substrate are contained in the second reagent.

19. (Withdrawn) The reagent kit according to claim 18, wherein the first reagent further contains a tetrazolium compound.

20. (Withdrawn) The reagent kit according to claim 19, wherein the tetrazolium compound comprises 2-(4-iodophenyl)-3-(2,4-dinitrophenyl)-5-(2,4- disulfophenyl)-2H-tetrazolium or a salt thereof.

21. (Withdrawn) The reagent kit according to claim 19, wherein the first reagent further contains a surfactant.

22. (New) A method of reducing an influence of a non-analyte glycated amine during a determination of an amount of a glycated protein as an analyte, comprising:

(a) pretreating a sample by adding a fructosyl amino acid oxidase (FAOD) to the sample so that the FAOD acts on a non-analyte glycated amine that is present in the sample and different from a glycated protein as an analyte, thereby reducing an influence of the non-analyte glycated amine on a determination of an amount of the glycated protein as the analyte;

(b) adding a protease to the sample, thereby degrading the glycated protein as the analyte contained in the sample with the protease;

(c) after step (b), causing a redox reaction to occur without adding an additional amount of the FAOD or a separate FAOD so that in the redox reaction, FAOD added in the pretreatment acts on the degradation product of the glycated protein;

measuring the redox reaction; and

determining the amount of the glycated protein based on a result of the measurement of the redox reaction.